

**9VAC25-610-100. Water conservation and management plans.**

A. Any application to initiate a new withdrawal or expand an existing withdrawal in any ground water management area, or the reapplication at the end of a permit cycle for all permits, shall require a water conservation and management plan before the application or reapplication is considered complete. The board shall review all water conservation and management plans and assure that such plans contain all elements required in 9VAC25-610-100 B. which will become an enforceable part of the approved permit.

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B. A water conservation and management plan is an operational plan to be referenced and implemented by the permittee. Water conservation and management plans shall be consistent with local and regional water supply plans developed as required by 9 VAC 25-780 et seq. The water conservation and management plan shall include the following:

1. Requirements for the use of water saving equipment and processes for all water uses, including, technological, procedural, or programmatic improvements to the facilities and processes to decrease water consumption. These requirements shall assure that the most technically and financially efficient use is made of ground water. Also, where appropriate, the use of water saving fixtures in new and renovated plumbing as provided in the Uniform Statewide Building Code shall be discussed in the plan. If these options are not implemented in the plan, justification shall be provided in the form of a cost analysis that demonstrates implementation is cost prohibitive.

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2. A water loss reduction program, which defines the applicant's leak detection and repair program. The water loss reduction program shall include requirements for an audit of the total amount of ground water used in the distribution system and operational processes during the first two years of the permit cycle. Implementation of a leak detection and repair program shall be required within one year of the completion of the audit. The program shall include a schedule for inspection of equipment and piping for leaks;

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3. A water use education program that contains requirements for the education of water users and training of employees controlling water consuming processes to assure that water conservation principles are well known by the users of the resource. The program shall include a schedule for information distribution and type of materials.

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4. An evaluation of potential water reuse options, and assurances that water will be reused in all instances where reuse is feasible; Potential for expansion of the existing reuse practices or adoption of additional reuse practices shall also be included; and

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5. Requirements for mandatory water use reductions during water shortage emergencies declared by the local governing body or water authority in accordance with §15.2-923 and §15.2-924 of the Code of Virginia. This shall include, where appropriate, ordinances in municipal systems prohibiting the waste of water generally and requirements providing for mandatory water use restrictions in accordance with drought response and contingency ordinances implemented to comply with 9 VAC 25-780-120, during water shortage emergencies. The water conservation and management plan shall contain requirements for mandatory water use restrictions during water shortage emergencies that prohibit all nonessential uses such as lawn watering, car washing, and similar nonessential residential, industrial and commercial uses for the duration of the water shortage emergency. Penalties for failure to comply with mandatory water use restrictions shall be included in municipal system plans.

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1 ~~C. The board shall review all water conservation and management plans and assure~~  
2 ~~that such plans contain all elements required in 9VAC25-610-100 B. The board shall~~  
3 ~~approve all plans that:~~

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4 ~~1. Contain requirements that water saving fixtures be used in all new and renovated~~  
5 ~~plumbing as provided in the Uniform Statewide Building Code;~~

6 ~~2. Contain requirements for making technological, procedural, or programmatic~~  
7 ~~improvements to the applicant's facilities and processes to decrease water consumption.~~  
8 ~~These requirements shall assure that the most efficient use is made of ground water;~~

9 ~~3. Contain requirements for an audit of the total amount of ground water used in the~~  
10 ~~applicant's distribution system and operational processes during the first two years of the~~  
11 ~~permit cycle. Subsequent implementation of a leak detection and repair program will be~~  
12 ~~required within one year of the completion of the audit, when such a program is~~  
13 ~~technologically feasible;~~

14 ~~4. Contain requirements for the education of water users and employees controlling~~  
15 ~~water consuming processes to assure that water conservation principles are well known~~  
16 ~~by the users of the resource;~~

17 ~~5. Contain an evaluation of potential water reuse options and assurances that water~~  
18 ~~will be reused in all instances where reuse is feasible;~~

19 ~~6. Contain requirements for mandatory water use restrictions during water shortage~~  
20 ~~emergencies that prohibit all nonessential uses such as lawn watering, car washing, and~~  
21 ~~similar nonessential residential, industrial and commercial uses for the duration of the~~  
22 ~~water shortage emergency; and~~

23 ~~7. Contain penalties for failure to comply with mandatory water use restrictions.~~  
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